# TABOR TALK

## Only Two More Sundays...

-Michael Brown

In October, Dr. Sam Moore phoned out of the blue and asked if I would serve as Interim Pastor at Mount Tabor. Page and I talked and prayed about it for a couple days. Then I called him back and said "Yes." I will be forever grateful for Sam's invitation and The Spirit's guidance to accept. Our first Sunday here was October 29. Our only regret is that the time has passed too quickly.

We've been through a lot together. I arrived as a stranger when the church was trying to navigate unexpected and undesired waters. No one would have been surprised had you been resistant to a newcomer. Instead, however, I experienced a community of Christlike folks who practice a Matthew 25 kind of love. You were accepting, hospitable, and supportive. You welcomed Page and me with kindness, helped us get the lay of the land, and allowed me to become preacher, pastor, and friend. We went through Advent and Christmas together. Then came our explorations of the seasons of Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost. We celebrated great seasons and great days. We mourned together at memorial services. We strategized side-by-side in committee meetings. We participated in study and learning opportunities. We labored. We laughed. We loved.

Now June has arrived. As you know, the first Sunday in June is Graduation Sunday. Willy B will be preaching. We all know he will do a superb job. The second Sunday in June, I will be in Blowing Rock helping to kick off the summer season at the chapel we serve there from June-September every year. Dr. Robert Kerr will be your preacher and will bless you with faith that is deep and meaningful. So, I only have two more Sundays with you (June 16 and 23 -- Sam Moore will be leading a Transition Sunday on June 30, and your new Pastor will be in the pulpit on July 7). Two more Sundays with a church I have come to love. Two more Sundays in a place where I feel not so much like an Interim as I do like part of the family. Two more Sundays to see the smiles, hear the voices, and experience the handshakes and hugs of you people who are my friends. Two more Sundays to experience what it means to be Mount Tabor. We will miss you. As I said, it all passed too quickly.

Hopefully we will see you again from time to time. Our grandchildren are here, so there will be those children-and-church occasions. And, I hope some of you will travel with us on the Journey Through Early Christianity cruise next May (you can find brochures about that in the Narthex and Welcome Center). Plus, I know full well we'll be bumping into one another in grocery stores and restaurants. Still, there's this little refrain that keeps playing in my mind: Only Two More Sundays ....

So, I write this concluding newsletter article to say two things: First, Thank you. Thank you for doing what you do and for being who you are. And, thank you for the privilege of allowing us to have some small role in it. Second, Embrace your new minister with the same love you extended to us. Rev. David Beam is a kind, caring, and very capable man. I am confident God will use him in powerful ways to make this great church even greater. Plus, there's an old adage that says, "Great churches make great preachers." That being the case, there's no way he could fail. You folks are outstanding. So is your new pastor. God + David + Mount Tabor = a winning combination! I believe that for you, the best is yet to come. That will be my prayer for this church which I love.

## What we're talking about this month in TaborKIDS Junior and TaborKIDS:

Everyone loves a party because parties mean we have something to celebrate. Birthdays, Christmas, a winning season—each party brings so much joy! This month, we are going to start a party that celebrates the Good News about God! And when God is at the center of our celebration, I can have joy all the time by choosing joy!



Choose joy! This may be a commonly used phrase you've heard, but what does it actually mean? Joy is more than being excited about the good things that happen to us. Joy is an attitude—a decision to trust God no matter what is going on in our lives. From the very beginning, God had a plan for the world. As we dive into the Bible, we'll discover God's plan for us and how God has been at work through it all. When we see and celebrate what God is doing, we can find true joy!

It doesn't sound possible, at first, but then when we think about God. . . who God is . . . What God has done . . . how much God loves us . . . well, that is worth celebrating! God is worth celebrating! All day, every day! So let's Start The Party! It's time to celebrate the Good News about God.









Hey TaborKIDS! We'd love to see you on Sunday mornings in TaborKIDS Worship offered during all worship services. We love our TaborKIDS!

For more information on any of these activities or Children's Ministries in general, check your TaborKIDS Weekly email or please contact Marcey Davis (marcey.davis@mttaborumc.org)



"Mayday—Mayday—Mayday" now has a whole new meaning for us. What typically means emergency, now takes on the meaning of buckle up because it is about to be nonstop action.

From our students and High Schoolers taking their AP exams, final exams to big End-of-Year Projects, graduations, dance recitals, band concerts, and so much more — May brought us a tremendous amount of things into our "normal" schedules. May also brought some great times to fellowship whether it be Mothers Day with our families, the Andy Burton Memorial Golf Tournament, the Pentecost Potluck, our final "Main Event" of the school year, or finishing up the month around loved ones for Memorial Day weekend. There we were making great memories during times of fellowship that keep us grounded in our community and God's love.

While the busyness and stress of life continued to pull on us during the month of May, the month will truly and forever be special as we held the 20<sup>th</sup> Andy Burton Memorial Golf Tournament

## Youth Ministries at Mount Tabor UMC

(2 years lost due to Covid). We honored Blaine and Beverly for 20 years of the tournament and over \$250,000 raised for the youth and youth missions. We are constantly reminded that Andy Burton continues to live through us all as a church community even in the midst of our darkest times. It is precisely this faith community who is here to hold us, comfort us, and to catch our tears. This year we had the scare of rain that could have caused trouble for the tournament, but instead we had just about the most perfect weather you could ask for. The rain came down hard with severe thunderstorms making it hard to sleep the night before, cleared up in time for the tournament, and then after everything was cleaned up the flood gates opened once again. This "once again" remains a steadfast reminder that the power of community allows for the bright light of God's love to shine through the storms in which we carry.

Now here is to Summer break and celebrating our graduates as they transition to the next stage of their life.

Contact Will Busch, our Student Ministries Director at 336-765-5561 ext 1008 or email him at will.busch@mttaborumc.org if you have questions about the Student Ministries of Mount Tabor UMC.

#### Let's give a BIG MTUMC Welcome to Ian Hargis

We are delighted to welcome Ian Hargis as the Coordinator of Worship Arts for Youth & Children beginning July 1! Ian retires this month as a public school music teacher where he has served as Band Director at Reynolds High School and most recently as the music teacher for exceptional children in WS/FC and Guilford County Schools. Retirement will afford him more time with his wife and two children and allow him to complete his residency in the Chaplaincy program at Baptist Hospital. Ian looks forward to building a dynamic worship arts program that is fun and allows children and youth to use what they have been given to glorify God.



Ian Hargis

Ian will kick off his time here by helping with VBS followed by fall programming. Please join me in welcoming Ian and praying for him and this Worship Arts ministry.

—Marcey Davis

## **Summer Thoughts**

As we head into summer, hopefully our busy pace of life slows down a bit, giving us space for a little more rest and a slower pace.....

Recently, 29 women from Mount Tabor enjoyed a weekend retreat at Caraway Conference Center near Asheboro. It was a wonderful time of teaching, fellowship, spending time in nature, enjoying nearby sites, reflection and rest. Summer is a great time to consider taking a retreat. Retreats are a good way to tend to our spiritual life and give our weary minds and bodies some rest. They allow time for reflection, quiet space, and time to pray. It doesn't have to be a weekend or a whole week., taking a ½ day or 1 day retreat is impactful as well. Carving some space out of our busy schedule can motivate, encourage, and sustain us for busier times ahead.

A great place to experience a retreat is the Starrette Farm Retreat Center in Statesville. The Farm offers Quiet Space Fridays on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday each month. The remaining dates in 2024 are: June 14, July 12, Aug. 9, Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, and Dec 13. For more information: https://www.thelydiagroup.com/quiet-space-fridays

If you would like to grow deeper spiritually and are able to make the commitment, School of the Spirit may interest you. It is a 12 month, retreat-based spiritual formation journey into contemplative practices that bring us closer to God and can be life changing. The program includes both in-person and online elements. It is also held at the Starrette Farm Retreat Center. For more information: https://www.schoolofthespirit.com

## **Other Opportunities for Spiritual Formation:**

**Sunday School Classes and Small Groups for Adults** – please let me know if I can helpyou get connected.

**Weds. Women's Bible Study**—All women are invited to attend "The Prayers of Jesus " on the following Wednesdays: June 12, July 17, and Aug. 14 at 9:30am, in person in the Fellowship Hall and also via zoom. We will look at the prayer life of Jesus and what it teaches us, along with the prayers Jesus prayed as recorded in the Bible. There is nothing to purchase to participate, just bring a Bible and feel free to invite a friend.

—Kim Harvey
Dir. of Congregational Care & Spiritual Formation kim.harvey@mttaborumc.org
336-765-5561



## Join us at Summer Tabor Table from 5:15-6:30pm in the Family Life Center

Suggested donations are Adult (age 13-older) \$8; Child (ages 3-12) \$5; Family in same house \$25 cap. Make reservations at www.mttaborumc.org/tabor-table

#### - June 12 -

Chicken Enchiladas, Green Beans, Rice, Salad, Desserts and Drinks with Chicken Nuggets as our kids option.

Mark your calendars and make plans to join us for more Summer Tabor Table fun on July 17 and August 14!

## Help Needed at North Hills Elementary School (NHES)

The WSFCS school year is rapidly coming to an end, meaning that several end-of -year activities will soon occur, with which our teachers need help. Please consider volunteering at the:

- Book Fair: On June 4, a book fair will be held in the Media Center. Set-up for the book fair will occur on June 3. Volunteers are needed for both days.
- Field Days: Field days will be held on June 5 (upper grades) and June 6 (lower grades).

Volunteers are needed on both days to assist with game set-up (and resetting) and to assist the Physical Education teachers. Note: some water games are included; you could get wet! Volunteer orientation and supervision will be provided by NHES staff, and the hours are flexible. If you have any questions, please contact Craig Miller (cnjinwsnc@gmail.com) or Roslyn Payne (rpayne@wsfcs.k12.nc.us). The Go Team asks that you prayerfully consider helping out our teachers in these ways.

Thank you in advance for you help.

## Thanking and Celebrating Michael Brown for his Faithful Service to the Ministries of Mount Tabor

You are invited to join us for a reception on **Sunday**, **June 23 at 10:00am** (following Modern Worship) **and 12:00pm** (following Traditional Worship) in the Fellowship Hall as we take a moment to thank Michael Brown for his time of ministry at Mount Tabor. Pastor Michael has served as our Interim Senior Pastor for eight months and all are invited to attend this special reception.

If you would like to give an honorarium to the Page and Michael Brown church for Pastor Michael, he has asked that gifts go toward the building fund/debt reduction. You may give online using the Honorarium fund and noting Michael Brown in the memo line. You may also give by cash or check with the note "in honor of Michael Brown".

We are so thankful for Pastor Michael, his ministry, and friendship over the past eight months and want to take this moment to say "so long" not goodbye on his last Sunday at MTUMC.

#### **Memorial and Honorarium Gifts Given to Mount Tabor UMC**

#### In memory of Malinda Huffstetler

- Linda Reddick
- Francis Vazquez
- Betty Brown
- Loris & Betty Cololough
- Don & Marcey Davis
- **TaborKids**

#### In memory of Rick Worf aiven by:

- Witte & Debbie Smith
- Janie Livengood
- John & Lisa Millican
- John Davis
- Craig & Judy Miller

#### In memory of Miller Council given by:

- Charles & Lenora Council
- Janice Council

#### In honor of Mike Petree aiven by:

Lvn Worf

#### In honor of Cynthia Grant given by:

Lvn Worf

#### In honor of Dr. Michael Brown given by:

Robert & Sandra Hartman

## -Extending our Sympathies to-

- William I. Bigger
- Jason Campbell upon the death of his father, Richard M. Campbell
- Jim Bigger upon the death of his father, John Bradford upon the death of his mother, Jean Bradford

## -WELCOME to our NEW MTUMC Family Members-

- Ty & Julia Rutledge
- Pierce Renegar
- Emma Torrev
- Holden Joubert
- Abby Wildman
- Myles Marion

Amelia Brown

## -Congratulations to-

Ty & Julia Rutledge upon the baptism of their children Meredith and Grant Rutledge



| Recycling Team Volunteers  |                        |  |  |  |  |
|--|------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Dates  | Group 1                | Group 2  |  |  |  |
| May 26-June 8  | Carolyn Miller         | Bobby Sharp  |  |  |  |
| June 9-22  | Don Rhyne              | Judy Miller  |  |  |  |
| June 23-July 6   | Judy Miller            | Cathy Hurd   |  |  |  |
| July 7-20  | Barbara Beason         | Ed Beason  |  |  |  |
| July 21-August 3   | Rob Crenshaw           | Jeff Buchanan  |  |  |  |
| Additional Volunteer Teams   |                        |  |  |  |  |
| Dates  | Team                   | Volunteers   |  |  |  |
| June 2024  | Kitchen Team           | Cheryl Vaughan   |  |  |  |
| June 2024  | Altar Guild            | Cheryl Smith   |  |  |  |
| Crisis Control Ministry Gift of the Month Please place your donations in the Crisis Control wooden bin in the Trinity Welcome Center |                        |  |  |  |  |
| June 2024  | Ongoing Gift:<br>Juice | Gift of the Month: Condiments (BBQ Sauce, Ketchup, Mustard, Mayo, Hot Sauce, Salad Dressing) |  |  |  |

| Worship with Mt. Tabor United Methodist Church             |   |   |   |                                     |  |
|--|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| Date   | Preaching at our<br>9:00am<br>Modern Service<br>in the Alspaugh<br>Worship Center | Preaching at<br>11:00am<br>Traditional<br>Service in the<br>Sanctuary | Sermon Title                                    | Sermon<br>Scripture                 |  |
| Communion Sunday  June 2                                   | Will Busch  |   | Trust & Go                                      | Proverbs 3:1-6,<br>Matthew 28:19-20 |  |
| June 9   | Guest Minister,<br>Dr. Robert Kerr  |   | Don't Give the<br>Enemy a Seat at<br>Your Table | Psalm 23                            |  |
| June 16  | Dr. Michael Brown   |   | The Care and<br>Handling of<br>Preachers        | I Corinthians<br>1:10-13            |  |
| Pastor Michael's last<br>Sunday at MTUMC<br><b>June 23</b> | Dr. Michael Brown   |   | The Bottom Line                                 | Matthew 16:13-<br>19                |  |
| June 30  | Guest Minister, Yadkin Valley<br>District Superintendent,<br>Dr. Sam Moore        |   | Holy Interruptions                              | Mark 5:21-43                        |  |

All services are also available via livestream at www.YouTube.com/MountTaborUMCVideoStreaming and the Mount Tabor United Methodist Church Facebook page.

Worship Bulletins are available at https://www.mttaborumc.org/bulletin.

Photos and videos are taken during Mount Tabor Services and Events for communication and/or historical purposes.

If you want your image excluded, notify the church office at 336-765-5561 ext. 1000.



## Our High School Graduates

**Maggie Brown** 

**Graduating from:** Reagan High School

Next Learning Adventure: University of North Carolina

Greensboro

**Favorite Bible Verse:** My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast! I will sing and make melody! Psalms 57:7 NIV

**Words to her parents:** Thank you for encouraging all my passions and supporting me in every aspect of my life. Your encouragement has been the driving force behind many of my accomplishments and successes. Simply put I wouldn't be where I am today without your unconditional love, guidance, and reinforcement. Thank you for everything.

**Words to her church family:** I appreciate my church family at Mount Tabor UMC for all the support I've been given through

out the years.

**Addison Carpien** 

**Graduating from:** Reagan High School

**Next Learning Adventure:** Auburn University

**Favorite Bible Verse:** Conduct yourselves wisely toward outsiders, making the most of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer every one. Colossians 4:5-6

Words to her parents: Thank you for everything you've done and

all the support.

**Jacob Carpien** 

**Graduating from:** Regan High School

**Next Learning Adventure:** Bridgewater College

**Favorite Bible Verse:** For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but

have eternal life. John 3:16

**Eric Dugains** 

**Graduating from:** Davie High School **Next Learning Adventure:** Forsyth Tech

**Hayden Craven** 

**Graduating from:** Mount Tabor High School

**Next Learning Adventure:** NC State



Joseph Hadley

**Graduating from:** Mount Tabor High School **Next Learning Adventure:** Duke University

**Favorite Bible Verse:** Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Mathew 5:16

Words to his parents: Thank you for being my biggest supporters

and always pushing me to be a better person

**Molly Johnson** 

**Graduating from:** Reagan High School

Next Learning Adventure: University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

Jonah Mussomeli

**Graduating from:** Mount Tabor High School

**Next Learning Adventure:** NC State

Sam Wood

**Graduating from:** Mount Tabor High School

**Next Learning Adventure:** NC State

**Billie Mason** 

**Graduating from:** Mount Tabor High School

**Next Learning Adventure:** attending a four-year school, pre-med **Favorite Bible Verse:** The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want; he makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies; thou anointest my head with oil, my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. Psalm 23

**Words for his parents:** Your guidance and support have shaped who I am today, and I'm grateful for everything you've done for me.

**Words to his church family:** Continue to be the beacon of light and love that illuminates this virtual sanctuary. Your presence, your words, and your unwavering support are the fuel that sustains me on this remarkable journey. Pray for our safety and peace of mind as we go through this journey.



Samantha Elliott

**Graduating from:** Mount Tabor High School

**Next Learning Adventure:** University of Tennessee Martin

**Hope Burton** 

**Graduating from:** Calvary Day School

**Next Learning Adventure:** University of North Carolina Charlotte **Favorite Bible Verse:** but when he arrived in Rome he searched for

me eagerly and found me— 2 Timothy 1:17

**Words to her parents:** Thank you for supporting me in everything I do and for opening my life to an abundance of opportunities and experiences that I otherwise would not be able to have. You have shaped me and molded me to be the person I am today and I will be forever grateful. I love you guys!

**Words to her church family:** Thank you for helping me along the journey of life. Through the years, this church has made a comforting second family and I know they will always be.

#### Amee Surrell

**Graduating from:** Mount Tabor High School **Next Learning Adventure:** Campbell University

**Favorite Bible Verse:** He has showed you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

Words to her parents: Thanks for supporting me.

Words to her church family: Thanks for accepting me into your

family and making me feel comfortable.

#### **Bradley Williams**

**Graduating from:** Reagan High School

**Next Learning Adventure:** Wake Forest University

Favorite Bible Verse: I can do all things in him who strengthens

me. Philippians 4:13

**Words to his parents:** I want to thank you for supporting me throughout my entire life with every endeavor, and being so involved with my activities like volunteering for band activities or even youth mission trips. I couldn't have done it without your support and I appreciate and love you!

**Words to his church family:** I am grateful for being able to have a youth family throughout all my middle and high school years. Every one here has been very supportive and I am blessed by

knowing them.



## Additional High School Graduates

- Christopher Guilbault— Reagan High School
- Ryann Perry
- Kaitlyn Russ

- Molly Stauffer— Forsyth Country Day School
- Zachary Stevens

## Our College Graduates

- Hannah Boone graduating from Oregon State University with a MA in Applied Anthropology. She will be pursuing her PhD in Integrative Conservation with an emphasis in Anthropology from UGA
- Katie Nicholls graduating from University of North Carolina Chapel Hill
- **Austin Williams** graduating from University of North Carolina Charlotte
- Caitlin Carr graduating from Wake Forest University with a Masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- **Austin Cook** graduating from University of North Carolina Chapel Hill with a degree in Political Science
- **Aidan Baker** graduating from NC State with a degree in Conservative Biology. He will be commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in Marine Corps
- **Kyle Baker** graduating from NC State with a degree in Environmental Engineering. He is entering the work force at a firm in Raleigh
- Sydney Rodts graduating from NC State with a Masters in Civil Engineering



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GATHER Joyfully • GROW Spiritually • GO Faithfully

## Worship Opportunities at Mount Tabor UMC

## 9:00am Modern Worship Service

this is a modern and contemporary worship service that is held in the Alspaugh Worship Center. Join us in-person and online each Sunday.

#### 11:00am Traditional Worship Service

this traditional worship service incorporates traditional hymns of faith and historic creeds of the church in the Sanctuary.

You are invited to join us in-person and online each Sunday.

- Nursery care and a Mother's Room are available in the Children's Building.
- Wheelchairs are available for use while on church property and hearing enhancement devices, as well as large print bulletins, are available.
- See an usher for details.

## How to watch our services from home or while you are away:

- Livestream the services at www.YouTube.com/ MountTaborUMCVideoStreaming
- Facebook Live at Mount Tabor United Methodist Church